2.1 Repair or Service Information

Setup of the Electronic Control Unit is to be performed ONLY by individuals certified by Invacare. The final tuning adjustments of the controller may affect other activities of the wheelchair. Damage to the equipment could occur under these circumstances. If non-certified individuals perform any work on these units, the warranty is void.

Refer to the Spectra Blitz™ maintenance manual for detailed service and repair information

2.2 General Safety Notes

GENERAL WARNINGS

- *Performance adjustments should only be made by professionals of the healthcare field or persons fully conversant with this process and the driver's capabilities. Incorrect settings could cause injury to the driver, bystanders, damage to the chair and to surrounding property.*
- *After the wheelchair has been setup, check to make sure that the wheelchair performs to the specifications entered during the setup procedure. If the wheelchair does NOT perform to specifications, turn the wheelchair OFF immediately and re-enter setup specifications. Repeat this procedure until the wheelchair performs to specifications.*
- *DO NOT climb, go up or down ramps or traverse slopes greater than 6°.*
- *The recommended safe slope is 6° See page 21 - recommended driving position.*
- *DO NOT attempt to move up or down an incline with a water, ice or oil film.*
- *DO NOT attempt to drive over kerbs or obstacles greater than 50mm in height. Doing so may cause your wheelchair to turn over and cause bodily harm or damage to the chair.*

- *Always stop before climbing an obstacle. Approach slowly until castors contact the obstacle. Apply power and drive over the obstacle in a controlled manner.*
- *DO NOT use parts, accessories, or adapters other than those authorized by Invacare.*
- *DO NOT stand on the frame of the wheelchair.*
- *Take care when disengaging automatic brakes if the chair is on a slope.*

TYRE PRESSURE

- *DO NOT use your wheelchair unless it has the proper tyre pressure. DO NOT over inflate the tyres. Failure to follow these suggestions may cause the tyre to explode and cause bodily harm. The recommended tyre pressure is listed on the side wall of the tyre.*

BATTERIES

- *The warranty and performance specifications contained in this manual are based on the use of deep cycle gel cell batteries. Invacare strongly recommends their use as the power source for this unit.*
- *Carefully read battery/battery charger information prior to installing, servicing or operating your wheelchair.*

ELECTRICAL

- *Extreme care should be exercised when using oxygen in close proximity to electrical circuits. Contact your oxygen supplier for instructions in the safe use of oxygen.*

RAIN TEST

- *INVACARE has tested it's power wheelchairs in accordance with ISO 7176 Part 9 "Rain Test". This provides the end user or his/her attendant sufficient time to remove his/her power wheelchair from a rain storm and retain wheelchair operation.*
- *DO NOT leave power wheelchair in a rain storm of any kind.*
- *DO NOT use power wheelchair in a shower or leave it in a damp bathroom while taking a shower.*
- *DO NOT leave power wheelchair in a damp area for any length of time.*
- *Direct exposure to rain or dampness will cause the chair to malfunction electrically and mechanically; may cause the chair to prematurely rust.*
- *Check to ensure that the battery covers are secured in place.*
- *DO NOT use the joystick if the boot is torn or cracked. If the joystick boot becomes torn or cracked, replace IMMEDIATELY.*

WEIGHT TRAINING

- *Invacare DOES NOT recommend the use of its wheelchairs as a weight training apparatus. Invacare wheelchairs have NOT been designed or tested as a seat for any kind of weight training. If occupant uses said wheelchair as a weight training apparatus, Invacare shall NOT be liable for bodily injury and the warranty is void.*

WEIGHT LIMITATION

- *The Spectra Blitz™ has a maximum user weight limitation of 75kg (165 lb).*

2.3 Safety Information on Electromagnetic Interference

This electric vehicle was successfully tested in accordance with international standards as to its compliance with Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) regulations. However, electromagnetic fields, such as those generated by radio and television transmitters, and cellular phones, can influence the functions of electric vehicles. Also, the electronics used in our vehicles can generate a low level of electromagnetic interference, which however will remain within the tolerances permitted by law. For these reasons we ask you to please observe the following precautions:

WARNING: DANGER OF MALFUNCTION DUE TO ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE!

- *Do not switch on or operate portable transceivers or communication devices (such as radio transceivers or cellular telephones) when the vehicle is switched on!*
- *Avoid getting near strong radio and television transmitters!*
- *In case the vehicle should be set in motion unintentionally or the brakes are released, switch it off immediately!*
- *Adding electrical accessories and other components or modifying the vehicle in any way can make it susceptible to electromagnetic interference. Keep in mind that there is no sure way to determine the effect such modifications will have on the overall immunity of the electronic system!*
- *Report all occurrences of unintentional movement of the vehicle, or release of the electronic brakes to the manufacturer!*

2.4 Safety Precautions/Safe Operation

IMPORTANT WARNING

- *The day-to-day activities and the more advanced Powerchair techniques depend, on your physical capabilities and your own specific circumstances. Our recommendations may occasionally differ from those of your Therapeutic Adviser or Physician, as they have a better understanding of your abilities. Where this is the case, you MUST FOLLOW THEIR advice, they are better placed to tell you what is suitable for you and what is not.*
- *DO NOT use your Powerchair when your driving ability is impaired by medication or alcohol.*

CAUTION

- *Avoid using your powerchair on rough ground or in adverse weather conditions (snow or ice), always steer clear of obstacles where possible, ensure your clothing and hands are kept clear of all moving parts, ask for assistance when descending or ascending steep gradients. Never attempt to negotiate stairs. Never use an escalator to move a powerchair between floors. Due to both the weight of a powerchair and its occupant it is not advisable to attempt to be assisted up and down stairs whilst the powerchair is occupied.*
- *If you are a user with limited mobility we advise that in the case of adverse weather conditions i.e. extreme cold, DO NOT attempt a journey without an accompanying attendant. In the event of a power failure you could become stranded in an isolated area, where there is the strong possibility you will be unable to get immediate assistance.*
- *Braking of your powerchair is dependent on electromagnetic motor brakes. When these are disengaged by declutching the motor gear box drive system, the chair is in freewheel mode, this mode is for emergency use only and motor gear boxes should remain engaged at all other times.*
- *To avoid the powerchair free-wheeling, special care must be taken to engage motor brakes.*

SAFETY INDOORS

- *When using your powerchair indoors always consider the following potential hazards:*
- *Beware of the fact that many of the premises where you are likely to use your powerchair may not have been designed with this consideration in mind. You should therefore have an awareness for safety when encountering the likes of narrow doorways, steps, high surfaces, protruding wall fittings and every day household items such as electrical appliances etc. Take extra care in kitchen environments.*
- *Consider the fire evacuation procedures for buildings you may be entering. Never put yourself at risk and ensure that you can be easily evacuated in the event of an emergency.*

NOTE

Powerchairs drive very quietly, generally travel faster than the average walking pace and are low to the ground. Always consider these factors when using your powered wheelchair in busy pedestrian areas.

COPING WITH EVERYDAY OBSTACLES

- *Coping with the irritation of everyday obstacles can be alleviated somewhat by learning how to manage your wheelchair. Keep in mind your centre of gravity to maintain stability and balance.*
- *DO NOT attempt to lift the wheelchair by any removable (detachable) parts. Lifting by means of any removable (detachable) parts of a wheelchair may result in injury to the user or damage to the wheelchair.*
- *Also, be aware of detachable parts such as armrests or legrests. These must NEVER be used for hand-hold or lifting supports, as they may be inadvertently released, resulting in possible injury to the user and/or assistant(s).*
- *When learning a new assistance technique, have an experienced assistant help you before attempting it alone.*

SAFETY/HANDLING OF WHEELCHAIRS

- *Use this information only as a "basic" guide. The techniques that are discussed on the following pages have been used successfully by many.*
- *Individual wheelchair users often develop skills to deal with daily living activities that may differ from those described in this manual. Invacare recognises and encourages each individual to try what works best for him/her in overcoming environmental obstacles that they may encounter, however ALL WARNINGS and CAUTIONS given in this manual MUST be followed. Techniques in this manual are a starting point for all new wheelchair user and assistant with "safety" as the most important consideration for all.*

AMPUTEE STATEMENT FOR PRESCRIBERS

- *When prescribing wheelchairs for use by full or partial amputees (above or below knee, single or double) it is important to recognize that lower limb amputation will affect the sitting centre of balance of the wheelchair. The impossibility of generalizing the individual ability of a wheelchair user means it is imperative that the product prescriber carries out a full stability evaluation to ensure that the user is safe in the use of the wheelchair and the risk of the wheelchair tipping is minimized.*

RECOMMENDED DRIVING POSITION

- *INVACARE recommends that when driving your Spectra Blitz during normal operating conditions the following seat and back angles are maintained:*
  - *Seat Angle: - approximately 4°*
  - *Back Angle: - approximately 7°*
- *Failure to observe the above precautions whilst driving may lead to instability, damage to the chair, user or those around you.*

SURFACES AFFECTED BY HEAT

- *The wheelchair is made from metal and plastic materials and, as with all products made with such materials, it can absorb heat from the sun when used outdoors or exposed to sunlight through windows etc... This can result in the surfaces of the wheelchair becoming hot, so take care in using it and touching the surfaces if it is left or used in such and environment.*